

BEAVERS ARE INDUSTRIOUS

Act Very Much Like Human Beings.

Waste Nothing and Never Make House Except With Dry Sticks.

Having as a boy read many wonderful stories about beaver, since coming to the States I have often wished I could get a pair, so I might see them at work. My desire was realized a year ago when I obtained a pair from the Canadian commissioner of mines, from the Iloguinquin park in northern Ontario, at a cost only sufficient to cover cost of trapping, boxing in a wire netting lined box and market value of skins.

I put the pair in a small lake of about two acres stocked with several varieties of water lilies, calamus and bulrushes with willows along the bank. The beaver appeared to think it an ideal place, and soon grew comparatively tame, coming regularly to a certain place about sundown to eat cull apples.

At the end of August they made a burrow about ten feet back under the bank. Then to prevent any animal digging into their living room they covered a space of ten feet over it with brush and sticks which they then daubed with mud, repeating the layers till the dome of the house is now three feet above the level of the bank. The inlet to the house from the water, they also covered the same way, extending it as the pond got lower and digging and deepening a canal from the level of the lake to the mouth of the burrow, so they would always have water to navigate in.

It was noticed however that they used nothing in their house construction which might serve as food only dead limbs or such as they had eaten the bark off, and all the trash they could get, and so intervened and plastered as to be impregnable to dogs and in a bear country to bears, especially after frost.

They made no move towards cutting down willows till the leaves fell. Then they cut one or two (about six inches in diameter, every night, trimming all the brush off, floating it down and stacking it in front of their house with the butts up so that the fine brush was all submerged so it could be reached when ice covered the surface of the lake. Seeing their design I had several loads of cottonwood, willow, cherry, etc., hauled to the edge of the water, this also was promptly cut up and placed in their larder.

When ice came they broke holes from underneath close to the edge wherever they wished, but after it got over an inch or so thick they kept breathing holes open along the bank, and could be seen swimming under ice after lily roots. Apparently they only used their store of brush in extreme weather.

Although the lake is filled with poultry netting they got out several times in the spring. The first night they cut an apple tree down so I had to put protectors round any in the danger zone, using scraps of poultry netting, old iron roofing, and even barrel staves as they do not care to gnaw dry wood, and have too much regard for their teeth to cut even the finest wire.

Finding this they did no further damage and were always back home before day, I did not close their outlet and they soon found the lower lake below their own, where finding water running out the spillway they promptly dammed this up, as I might have mentioned they nightly did to spillway of their own lake so effectively that one could only clear it out with a potatoe hook. Apparently they could not stand idle seeing water wasting, but they never interfered with the inlet. Water coming in was all right.

About the middle of June, four young beaver appeared swimming out at sundown about the size of half grown rabbits and I should say four weeks old. They sat up in the edge of the water and eat cut apples. They cannot yet bite a whole one. They roll it around in

their paws and cry over it like a young baby.

An amusing feature since the young ones came is the male doing all the work. The first thing in the evening when he comes out he changes the sleeping bed, swimming in with bunches of green weeds thrown over his shoulder and bringing out the used bed. Then he patches up the outside of the house and entrance, getting mud out of a canal which he digs out as an entrance to the house.

Beaver do not carry mud as reported on their broad tail, nor do they use it to pat and level mud. Of course their tail dragging gives it a smooth look, the mud used is carried on their front paws, their hind legs being so attached to their body that they can walk on them like a goose, the mud being deposited where wanted with a flap and kneaded with the front feet. The tail is used only for swimming and is a combination of paddle, screw, propeller and scull, something man has never been able to invent the equal of, and is also used as a danger signal, by hitting the water, making a noise equal to the crack of a pistol, hearing which all the other beaver dive.

Beyond the fiction regarding the use of their tail I have seen those beaver do everything almost I have read about their doing. They appear to have more than instinct, always apparently having an end in view. They waste nothing, where they cut down willows. So far, they have not touched the sprouts which came from the stump, possibly with an eye to a future supply. Beaver are purely vegetarians. They do not molest fish and will not as some believe, run muskrats out of a pond, but I notice they sometimes close muskrat holes and appropriate one as a start for their burrow. As an instance of beaver's sagacity, a willow tree had a narrow ditch on the side they wished to cut, caused by an old muskrat's burrow sinking. The beaver built a scaffold over this of dead branches on which they sat while cutting.

After they were almost exterminated the stockmen of Montana and New Mexico awoke to the beaver's usefulness in damming up small streams every few hundred yards so as to insure themselves a continuous waterway, the beaver being almost helpless on dry land or at least slow, thus conserving a supply of water in pools instead of the stream soon running dry, and stockmen now protect them.

Beaver apparently take two years to attain full growth, and I look for an amusing time this fall when housebuilding and pantry filling time comes. There will be divers cuffs and admonitions administered to the youngsters if they shirk by the head of the family, who is always busy.

It is gratifying to me to see the interest taken by my neighbors and friends in these animals as also in English pheasants which are now getting quite a start which, while being closely protected by law the year round, owe their greater safety to the kind care of our neighbors. Any pot hunter molesting them being promptly reported. We have got past the killing stage, and realize that a great part of the charm of country life, consists in seeing our wild animals and birds losing their fear of man and adding to the beauty of nature.

ALLEN REID.

South Hard-Hit by Wilson Bill.

The New Orleans Playmate denounces the Wilson Tariff bill, saying it "will do more injury to Southern industries than will be suffered by the industries of any other section." We are quite convinced of the great damage to be done Northern industries by the Wilson Tariff, and if it is going to be equally harmful to the South there can be but one outcome, the return to power of the party of Protection which will benefit Southern and Northern industries alike. But the South ought to take its Free-Trade medicine without making a wry face, for that is what it has been voting solidly for these many years.

The South has been helped by Northern capital despite the continued support of the Democratic party, and it does seem a shame that when it is just beginning to enjoy prosperity, due to industrial development, it should be given a set-back by the party to which it has given such full measure of devotion.—Camden (N. J.) Post-Telegram.

VOTE IN FAVOR OF RAILROAD STRIKE

Details of the Demands Of Conductors and Trainmen Are Announced.

New York, July 5.—Officials of the Order of Railroad Conductors and Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, were busy today completing the count of the ballot of members on the question of a strike of the 100,000 trainmen and conductors on the Eastern railroads.

The result of the vote will be submitted to the railroads before it is made public, but in anticipation of that today the railroad had received advices giving the vote as overwhelmingly in favor of a strike if ordered by the leaders.

Also it has been known that the men wanted increases of about fifteen per cent in wages, the details of the demands are published for the first time today. For passenger service, on runs of 155 miles or more a day, conductors on steam and electric trains want 2.90 cts. a mile, baggage-men 1.87 cents a mile, flagmen or rear brakemen, 1.80 cents a mile and brakemen 1.74 cents a mile.

On runs of less than 155 miles conductors want \$4.50 a day, baggage-men \$2.90 flagmen or rear brakemen \$2.90 and brakemen \$2.10.

There are other specifications in detail for overtime work, including the demand that trainmen who are ready for service the entire month and who do not lie off on their own accord, receive \$135 a month in the case of conductors; \$87 for baggage-men, \$84 for brakemen.

In the freight service the demands are on the basis of 4.15 cents a mile for conductors on thru trains and 4.84 cents a mile on way trains.

The Chicago standard of wages is demanded for all railroad yards with ten hours or less to constitute a day's work and overtime to be paid as time and a half.

Plans to Take Appointive Power From President.

Washington, July 7.—A bill to take part of the appointive power from the President and lodge it in a commission of three men will be introduced Monday by Senator Works. It is designed to prevent public offices from being used as political rewards, and the chief effect would be to take from Senators, Representatives and party leaders their present power of recommending candidates.

The proposed commission, appointed by each President at the opening of his term of office would recommend appointments. Members of Congress would be prohibited from making recommendations, and the commission could make no selections on the basis of "political rewards."

The bill provides a salary of \$6,000 a year to each commissioner.

Successful A. S. of E. Meeting.

Green River District Union A. S. of E met in court house in Hartford July 3d at 10 a. m. Called to order by President Balmann with Sec. S. B. Robertson at the desk.

A very warm and cordial welcome was delivered by Attorney A. D. Kirk of Hartford. Responded to by Secretary S. B. Robertson of Calhoun. Committee on Credentials indicated that we had a stray delegation from all the counties composing the district.

Following the seating of delegates the chairman appointed a Committee on Resolutions, composed of H. T. Sanders, of Hancock Co.; L. B. Tichenor, of Ohio Co.; J. W. Dunn, of Daviess Co.; and J. W. Taylor, of McLean Co.

While the Committee on Resolutions was out W. P. Stevens was called and made a very enthusiastic speech. Mr. B. C. Eaton, of McLean County, was called and made some telling remarks.

After a very busy session and the selection of Livermore as the next place of meeting, adjourned at 5 p. m.

LOST—last week in Bartlett or Buford voting precincts, a Knight templar, Masonic emblem watch chain, with my name engraved on same. Reward if returned to Hartford Republican or

T. E. BUTLER, Shreve, Ky.

U. S. NAVY NOW IS IN FOURTH PLACE

Real Comparative Strength Of Nations Shown In Brassey's Manual.

Washington, July 6.—The United States is now occupying fourth place among the navies of the world, and not third, as is generally supposed.

The real loss of prestige to the navy by reason of the failure to keep up the naval construction program is shown very clearly in Brassey's Manual, whose rating of the nations was discussed generally today by officers at the Navy Department.

Rear Admiral Bradley Fiske, chief of staff of Secretary Daniels, pointed out the real comparative strength of the nations as shown by Brassey's figures is:

England, 29.
Germany, 19.
France, 17.
United States, 13.
Japan is not given.

These figures represent the ships that would count in war at the present day. The United States is credited with 33 battleships and Great Britain with 77, but a great many eliminations would have to be made for a fight at the present day, so that the true standard is that given by Brassey. Naval officers here at least think so, and have the best of reasons for their opinions.

Admiral Fiske ventured a new opinion today on the subject of the building of the ships. He said:

"You hear it said from time to time that the navy is a burden to the poor. That is not so. Ships are built by the proceeds of imports largely. It is the champagne, the diamonds, the emeralds, silks, satins and furs that pay for the ships and the disbursement of the Navy Department. The great problem of any nation is to keep the people at work; that is to have work for them to do. When the reverse happens, you may look for trouble. I don't think there has been any subtle argument offered against a proper navy for this country."

Japs Celebrate Fourth.

New Castle, Cal., July 5.—New Castle would not have had a Fourth of July celebration yesterday had it not been for Japanese residents. Most of the Americans had gone on visits to neighboring cities, so the Japanese built a platform in a field, decorated it with American flags and Japanese lanterns, invited Americans to attend and provided day and night fire works and free refreshments. A Japanese acted as master of ceremonies and introduced the speakers, several of whom were Americans.

RENDER.

July 7.—Those on the sick list are Messrs. Simon Jones, Frank Hess, Tom Gwynn and little Miss Willie Edwards.

Several of our young people attended the picnic at Hartford Friday. Those from this place were Misses Maude Millard, Jessie Chilli, Bertha Hardin, Laura Dowell, Ollie McFarland, Myrtle Haakins; Messrs. John Haakins, John McFarland and Shirley Peters. All report a pleasant time.

Mr. Forest Beck of Louisville was in town last week.

Mr. Ervin Chinn and Miss Nannie Millard were married at Owensboro June 30. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Joe James and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Smith. The bride is a highly accomplished young lady of this place, while the groom is a prosperous young man formerly of this place but now a resident of Hellier, Ky. They left Friday for Hellier where they will make their future home. They have many friends who join us in wishing them a long and happy life.

Mr. L. T. Millard left Monday for Hot Springs, Ark.

Sunday school at this place is progressing nicely.

Misses Bertha Hardin and Dora Edwards were the guests of Miss Maude Millard Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Wray returned home Sunday after a week's visit to Mrs. Wray's mother, Mrs. T. M. Gaddis.

Mrs. Mattie Engleby visited Mrs. Jane Gwynn Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Edward Hughes and little daughter Juanita, returned to their home

in Central City Saturday after a few day's visit to her mother, Mrs. L. T. Millard.

Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Rice and Mr. and Mrs. P. K. Salesberg, of Central City, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Jones.

Mr. Wesley Hardin of Hartford, visited Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Hardin from Sunday to Monday.

Mrs. Emles Hardin and children returned from Fordsville Friday where they have been visiting relatives for the past few days.

Master James Edwards, of Horton was the guest of his brother, G. T. Edwards from Friday till Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gwynn, of McHenry, spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. Valcool.

Misses Josie and Dorsey Peters visited their cousin, Olga Lee Allen Monday.

Mrs. Kate Sloan and children, Willie and Lavern, of Herrin, Ill., who have been visiting Mrs. Jane Gwynn of this place, returned home Monday.

Mrs. Ida Wakeland and children, Irene Morton and Ervin left Friday for Hellier, Ky.

Miss Eura Robison spent Sunday night with Miss Ethel Phelps.

Misses Emma and Mary Millard of Beaver Dam and Mr. and Mrs. John Millard of East St. Louis, Ill., spent the evening with Mrs. L. T. Millard Thursday.

Great Hopkins County Fair.

Judge Givens always announces that each successive Great Hopkins County Fair will be "greater and grander than ever." Whether this is literally true or not, the people understand that they are going to get their money's worth at the Madisonville Fair. It holds the record in this section for thirty-one years' continuous success, and every year something new and novel is provided for the entertainment of the big crowds which invariably attend. The races during the past seven or eight years have been of a high standard and the Derby now draws large numbers of lovers of good racing from a wide territory. The Derby will be run on Wednesday, July 30, which is also Woodmen's Day, the combined lodges of Hopkins County uniting in the determination to make it a monster demonstration of Woodcraft.

The date selected this year is very fortunate—the farmers everywhere being up with their work and ready for a period of recreation—and indications point to record breaking crowds. The railroads entering Madisonville offer reduced rates.

Pulaski Women to Vote.

Somerset, Ky., July 8.—County Judge R. C. Tartar, acting in the absence of the Circuit Judge, B. J. Bethurum, who is in Michigan for his health, has issued an order directing County Clerk C. M. Langdon to prepare a separate ballot for the women of Pulaski County to vote for County School Superintendent in the August primary.

It is not known whether any other counties in the Eleventh Congressional District will have this privilege or not.

If all the women of legal age should avail themselves of this privilege in Pulaski County, it will cut quite a figure in this primary election race.

PALO.

Mr. Tom Wimsatt, of Sunnydale, was in our midst last Sunday.

We are needing rain very badly. Crops are suffering greatly.

Mr. John Willis returned from Owensboro last Saturday. He had been under treatment of physicians and is much improved.

Several from here attended the W. O. W. picnic at Hartford the Fourth.

Mr. Lawrence Bunker and family were the guests of Mr. Lee Lewis and family, Sunday.

Mrs. Baker, who has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cleora Whoberry, returned to Louisville Saturday.

Miss Bertha Whoberry went to Louisville Saturday to visit her sick sister, Mrs. Tilford. She will stay about thirty days.

Mr. Dunk Berry and Ivan Park went to Sunnydale Saturday.

Mr. John Stone and family and Mrs. John Estell, of Olaton, attended meeting at Marvins Chapel last Saturday.

Dysentery is always serious and often a dangerous disease, but it can be cured. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy has cured it even when malignant and epidemic. For sale by all dealers. m

STURGIS WIPED OUT BY FLAMES

Property Loss Placed At \$400,000 Or More.

Residents Battle Fire In Bucket Brigades, But All Efforts Prove Futile.

Evansville, Ind., July 6.—Sturgis, Ky., a town of about 2,000 people on the Illinois Central Railroad, about forty miles below here, was practically destroyed tonight, and at 11 o'clock the fire was still raging, and the few remaining buildings seemed to be at the mercy of the flames. It is estimated the property loss will be \$300,000 or more.

The fire originated at 8:45 o'clock tonight in the drug store of S. E. Graves and spread rapidly. The town has no water works and the people formed themselves into bucket brigades to fight the flames. The business buildings along Main Street on both sides were destroyed and about thirty dwellings had been destroyed at 11 o'clock, and many people have been rendered homeless.

The two bank buildings were destroyed. At 11 o'clock the fire was in the building next to the Illinois Central Railroad depot, and it was expected the building would go next. The Illinois Central Railroad Company has sent a freight engine well equipped with hose to help fight the fire.

The telephone operator at Sturgis in giving out information on the fire at 11 o'clock broke down and sobbed. "The whole town is doomed. We look for the wires to fall us any minute."

The fire was still raging at midnight and a strong wind was blowing. Among the business buildings destroyed were the following:

C. E. Graves' drug store, Barker & Perkins' restaurant, Dodd and Omann's furniture store, Sales and Higgins' restaurant, the Sturgis Grocery Company's store, Bonediet's grocery store, B. O. Hall's tailor shop, B. S. Welch's jewelry store, Mrs. Eble's five and ten-cent store, Miss Kate Wilcock's millinery store, Y. M. C. A., the Bank of Sturgis, the First National Bank, Bradburn's grocery, Shipley's grocery, George Simpson's grocery, George Simpson's furniture store, Stevenson & Thompson's hardware store, Nugent & King's drug store, Truitt's grocery store, E. L. Rake's theater and the store of the Stone Hardware Company.

It was expected the depot of the Illinois Central Railroad would be destroyed before 1 o'clock this morning. The property loss will be between \$400,000 and \$500,000.

Glad He Never Married.

Los Angeles, Cal., July 8.—Daniel Turner, a veteran of the Civil War residing at Santa Monica, who celebrated his 107th birthday today, thanks his judgement in remaining single for his long life and apparent good health.

"My life was never blighted by worry or sickness because I never married," said "Uncle" Dan. "Married men die younger than bachelors. Sometimes death is a welcome relief to a man who gets a modern wife."

For soreness of the muscles, whether induced by violent exercise or injury, there is nothing better than ment also relieves rheumatism pains. For sale by all dealers. adv.

When the Shoe Pinches.

A dispatch from Milwaukee states that the father-in-law of William Jennings Bryan, Jr., announces the retirement of the big milling firm of which he is the chief, owing to the fear of what would happen to the flour industry under Democratic Tariff revision.

If a hosiery manufacturer in Philadelphia had made an announcement of this character he would be branded by Democratic statesmen as a calamity howler. It will be admitted we presume, that the Milwaukee man is simply exercising ordinary prudence.

It makes a mighty big difference when the shoe begins to pinch the other fellow's foot.—Philadelphia Inquirer.